



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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ADOPTED

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE

February 28, 2023

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

46 February 28, 2023

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

CELIA ZAVALA
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

**MUNICIPAL SERVICES CORE SERVICE AREA
APPROVAL OF AN ASSIGNMENT OF TARIFF RULE 20A FUNDS TO
CITY OF LAKEWOOD
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 4)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Public Works is seeking Board approval to assign California Public Utilities Commission Tariff Rule 20A work credit allocations, available to the Fourth Supervisorial District, to the City of Lakewood for the city's proposed undergrounding of overhead utilities.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find that the recommended action is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated in this letter and in the record of the project.
2. Authorize the Director of Public Works, or his designee, as an agent of the County of Los Angeles, to assign California Public Utilities Commission Tariff Rule 20A work credit allocations, available to the Fourth Supervisorial District, in the total amount of \$3,000,000, to the City of Lakewood for the city's proposed future undergrounding of overhead utilities on Lakewood Boulevard in the City of Lakewood.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended action is to authorize the County of Los Angeles to assign the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Tariff Rule 20A work credit allocation, available to the Fourth Supervisorial District, to the City of Lakewood to underground overhead utilities and find that

the recommended action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The CPUC makes Tariff Rule 20A work credit allocations available to local jurisdictions for undergrounding of utilities within underground utility districts. Southern California Edison (SCE) administers the undergrounding program, including assigning the allocations to local agencies, and performs the construction work. A portion of the Fourth Supervisorial District's currently allocated Tariff Rule 20A funds will be assigned to the City of Lakewood.

The City of Lakewood intends to fund the undergrounding of the electrical distribution and transmission lines through Rule 20A work credit allocations in the amount of \$5,000,000 available to the City plus \$3,000,000 in County assigned Rule 20A work credit allocation to the City. The undergrounding project on Lakewood Boulevard is from Del Amo Boulevard to the north city limit at Ashworth Street, approximately 1.5 miles.

The County supports the City of Lakewood's Lakewood Boulevard project, which will provide public benefit, and will assign \$3,000,000 of its Rule 20A work credit allocation to the City.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

These recommendations support the County Strategic Plan: Strategy III.3, Pursue Operational Effectiveness, Fiscal Responsibility, and Accountability. The recommended action ensures that resources are expended in a responsible, efficient, and strategic manner.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no adverse impact to the County General Fund. CPUC Tariff Rule 20A work credit allocations, available to the Fourth Supervisorial District, in the amount of \$3,000,000, will be utilized for the undergrounding project in the City of Lakewood. The cost of the proposed undergrounding of other existing overhead utility lines within the street right of way would be borne by the affected utilities. The County of Los Angeles will assign the City of Lakewood \$3,000,000 from its available Rule 20A Tariff work credit allocation.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Under the CPUC Tariff Rule 20A Program, the County is allowed to assign its Rule 20A work credit allocations to cities within the County for their Rule 20A projects. The City of Lakewood formed Underground Utility District No. 14 on December 13, 2022, for its Lakewood Boulevard project, and has determined that the project qualifies to be funded by Rule 20A funds. The City of Lakewood is currently working with SCE to implement their projects. Upon allocation of the CPUC Tariff Rule 20A funding to the City of Lakewood, SCE will begin design services for the proposed undergrounding of its overhead utility lines. SCE will manage the design and construction of this work, utilizing the available Rule 20A work credit allocations available to the city including the contribution from the County.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The recommended action of assigning CPUC Tariff Rule 20A work credit allocations, available to the County, to the City of Lakewood for their undergrounding projects is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The City of Lakewood's project to provide undergrounding of existing overhead electrical and communication facilities is within a class of projects that have been

determined not to have a significant effect on the environment, meeting the criteria set forth in Section 15302, subsection (d), of the CEQA Guidelines. In addition, based on the proposed project records, it will comply with applicable regulations; there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, damage to scenic highways, listing on hazardous waste site lists compiled, pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5; or indications that it may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource that would make the exemption inappropriate.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

There will be no negative impact on current County services or projects as a result of assigning CPUC Tariff Rule 20A work credit allocations, available to the Fourth Supervisorial District, to the City of Lakewood.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to Public Works, Land Development Division.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Pestrella".

MARK PESTRELLA, PE

Director

MP:AVV:la

c: Chief Executive Office (Chia-Ann Yen)
County Counsel
Executive Office